1. Nemean Lion

-Hercules chokes the lion to death, because its skin is impervious to swords and arrows.

-He uses its own claws to skin the lion; he now wears the lion pelt over his head.

2. Lernean Hydra

-The 9-headed hydra regrows its heads when they are cut off.

-With the help of an ally, Hercules cuts off the heads, and then his assistant burns the wounds—this sears the hydra necks and stops them from regrowing.

3. Erymanthian Boar

-Hercules pursues the boar on Mount Erymanthia, driving and trapping it in deep snow.

-Hercules wrestles it into submission, and then drags it alive back to Mycenae.

4. Stymphalian Birds

-The birds’ feathers are made of bronze and are dangerous to the town near Lake Stymphalion.

-Hercules uses a rattle to scare away the birds with the loud noise he makes.

5. Golden Hind

-The hinds (or deer) of Artemis are chased by Hercules for almost a year. He finally hunts one down.

6. Augean Stables

-Hercules must clean the stables within a day, so he diverts two rivers through the stables, and uses the force of the water to wash away all the filth.

7. Girdle of Hippolyta

-Hercules goes to the Amazonian Queen to demand her belt (or girdle). She at first willingly gives it to him, but then Hera tricks her into attacking; she is killed by Hercules.

8. Mares of Diomedes

-The Mares (or female horses) eat men. Hercules killed King Diomedes, fed the body to the four mares, and then drove the tame horses back to Mycenae.

9. Cretan Bull

-The fire-breathing bull ran rampant across Crete. Hercules grabbed it by the horns and wrestled it to the ground, and brought it back to Mycenae alive.

10. Cattle of Geryon

-Hercules travels to an island to take back the red cows from the monster Geryon. He first threatens the sun-god Helios to take his boat, then creates the Pillars of Hercules at the edge of Africa and Spain. He kills Geryon and brings the cows back to Mycenae.

11. The Apples of Hesperides

-Hercules must travel to the farthest land in the world, Hesperia, to retrieve three golden apples that are a wedding gift from Mother Earth (Gaia) to Hera.

-Hercules learned the location of the apples from Nereus, and then saved Prometheus from being eaten alive by vultures.

-At the garden of the Hesperides, Hercules held up the Earth while the Titan Atlas—who normally holds the earth—to to pick the apples (Hercules would die if he picked them).

12. Cerberus

-Hercules traveled to the Underworld, and subdued the three-headed dog Cerberus, brought it to Mycenae, and then back to the Underworld.